

FORM NO. 51-61  
MAY 1949

INTELLOFAX 29

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET** U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY  
SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 13 November 1952

SUBJECT Nation Coupons

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 1 (8 pp.)  
(LISTED BELOW)

50X1-HUM

DATE  
ACQUIRED  
OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32 AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS AN ENCLOSURE ATTACHED.  
DO NOT DETACH

Attached

is a document concerning

*Economic & Social info  
relating  
mail  
prices, etc*

RR-C/C

DEC 9 12 17 PM '52

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET** U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

STATE	NAVY	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY	AIR											
ORR	x											

**SECRET**  
**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY**

SECURITY INFORMATION

THIS IS AN ENCLOSURE TO  
DETACH

Report

Ration Coupons

Rumanian citizens are classified into distinct ration categories which receive the following types of ration coupons:

- A - for miners
- B - for heavy laborers
- C - for ordinary laborers, clerks and students
- D 1 - for women
- D 2 for boys under 14 years old.

No ration books are issued to professional people, artisans and day laborers.

Value of couponsClass A - no dataClass B -

Bread	500 grams a day
Meat	300 grams a week
Sugar	1250 grams a month
Oil	750 grams a month
<i>Macaroni</i>	1000 grams a month
Soap	500 grams every 3 months

Class C

Bread	350 grams a day
Meat	300 " a week

- 1 -

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECRET**

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECURITY INFORMATION**

Sugar	750 grams a month
Oil	500 " " "
<del>Macaroni</del>	500 " " "
Soap	250 " every 3 months

Class D-1

Bread	300 grams a day
Meat	150 " " months
Sugar	500 " " "
Oil	400 " " "
<del>Macaroni</del>	500 " " "
Soap	250 grams every 3 months.

It should be taken into consideration that ~~macaroni~~ <sup>macaroni</sup> is used very little in Rumania.

The above articles are those still being rationed in RUMANIA.

The ~~free~~ <sup>free</sup> market also sells the above items as well as all others ~~at~~ <sup>though</sup> much higher prices than those charged with ration coupons.

The rationed articles can readily be found in the stores, except for meat, ~~which~~ <sup>on</sup> which was not distributed ~~on~~ <sup>on</sup> ration coupons in 1952.

<u>Prices of food supplies</u>	<u>With ration coupons</u>	<u>Without coupons</u>
<del>Dark</del> bread per kilo	0.70 lei	2 lei
White bread per kilo	-	3.22 "
Lamb " "	6 "	10-14 "
Beef " "	10 "	15-16 "
Sugar per kilo	2.80 "	9.30 "
Oil " "	2.80 "	20-22 "

- 2 -

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECRET**

~~SECRET~~  
U. S. OFFICIALS ONLYMacaroniWith ration couponsWithout coupons

Eggs

6.40 lei

Butter

60-65 ban apiece

Chicken

20-24 lei a kilo

30 per kilo (approx)

For the sake of economy all these articles are delivered to the customer unwrapped.

Fruit and greens

Rather than buy these on the ~~free~~ market ~~at~~ very high prices, the Rumanian housewife must make up for the insufficient ration by ~~using~~ *extensively using* fruits and greens ~~in~~ *in the meals she prepares!*

Oil however, is scarce, so the greens have very little seasoning

Fruit is scarce and consists of the seasonal production of the region

Tropical fruits are absolutely impossible to find and ~~they~~ *citrus fruits* are very expensive.

Prices

\*Spinach

20-25 ban per kilo

~~Greens~~1 " *bunch of* for 8-10 ~~pieces~~

Radishes

" " " " *one*

Onions

" " for 8-10 bunches containing 6-7 ~~pieces~~ *onions*

Potatoes

70 ban per kilo

Carrots

88 ban per kilo

Peas

12 lei per kilo

in boxes, 9 lei for a 1-kg box

Tomato concentrate

9 lei a kilo

Apples

5-6 lei a kg

- 3 -

U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET

**SECRET****U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECURITY INFORMATION**

50X1-HUM

Pears

7-8 lei a kilo

Oranges and lemons

2.50-4 lei apiece

Clothing

Clothes are rationed in the same way as food.

The ration coupons distributed for clothing are as follows:

Ration A	for miners
Ration B	for heavy laborers
Ration C	for common laborers, clerks, and students
Ration D 1	for women
Ration D 2	for boys under 14 <del>years</del>

Ration books are issued every 6 months.

Amounts rationed

Class A	no information
Class B	45 points
Class C	35 points
Class D1	30 points
Class D2	30 points

Those in class C have an extra coupon for one pair of shoes a year but no such provision is made for classes D1 and D2.

*NOTE* Letters are also stamped on the ration books ~~for~~ which, together with points, can be redeemed for linen.

1 man's suit	72 points
1 pair cloth pants	17 "
1 pair muslin pants	24 "
1 handkerchief (3 per year)	1 point and one letter
1 towel	6 points and one letter.
Socks	4 points
1 pair womens underclothes	6 points
Cloth for linen	5 meters for classes B and C
	3 for class D1

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECRET**

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY**

50X1-HUM

**SECURITY INFORMATION**Some prices

1 pair cloth trousers	36 lei
1 pair muslin trousers	50 lei
Mans suit	280 lei
Mens shoes	75 lei
Womens shoes	45-50 lei
Cloth <del>and</del> linen	3,80-4.20 lei per meter
leather gloves	36 lei

Clothes are also sold on the ~~free~~ market. Umbrellas and raincoats cannot be found.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~Miscellaneous

- toilet soap: 4.35 lei for a 240-gr. piece. No more than one piece is sold to a customer.

- toothbrushes: can hardly be found

- shaving soap: 6-12 lei a stick

- razor blades: cannot be found.

Old ones are sharpened <sup>not</sup> with ~~very poor old ones~~ and are sold ~~even~~ in

~~in~~ pharmacies.

- toothpaste: 15 lei a tube, Chlorodont.

- shoestrings: cannot be found

- women's stockings, ordinary: 6.50 lei with ration coupons and 12 lei without

\*women's nylon stockings: 170 lei a pair

- elastic: 8-10 lei per meter.

- shoe polish: 5-6 lei per box, poor quality

o skin cream: cannot be found.

- various perfumes: very poor quality

- lipstick - very rarely a tube of   lipstick can be found.

Th thread: cannot always be found. It is mostly black and white and costs 35 old lei a spool.

- 5 -

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECRET**

50X1-HUM

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY**

50X1-HUM

0 needles: 10 old lei per needle.

**SECURITY INFORMATION**Household articlesCups; 15-~~35~~ old lei apiece

Set of glasses (for 6 people): 12.50 lei

Set of 12 plates (6 deep dishes and 6 flat dishes), 1200 old lei.

Alpacca crockery set (6 settings): 200 lei

Electric current for domestic use:

16 old lei per kw. Consumption must be limited to a quantity

Set by the authorities.

Fuel: Fuel is also rationed. There are 3 types of rations:

Class A: for ~~household~~ pensioners and widows

Class B: for men without families

Class C: for family groups

Value

Class A: 900 kg of wood a year and 2 kg. of kerosene a month

Class B: no data

Class C: 2500 kg of wood a year or 2000 kg of wood a year and 20 kg.  
of kerosene a month.OR- ~~1500~~ 1500 kg. of firewood a year

- 500 kg. of coal a month

- 20 " of kerosene a month

Fuel ~~is~~ also on sale on the ~~free~~ market.Prices

Firewood: 90 lei a quintal.

Bottled gas:

Not rationed, but very expensive.

- 1 stove tankful: 4500 lei; 1 bottle: 6500 lei

- 6 -

**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY****SECRET**

~~SECRET~~

U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

Postal Service~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

Mail is delivered very slowly. A letter takes 5-6 days to reach its destination even if it is sent to a nearby place. Special delivery letters take about 4 days. There is no explanation for these delays.

~~These delays~~

Special delivery and registered letters are not accepted if the sender does not come to the postal window with his identity card.

Postal charges

- for sending a regular letter: 0.55 lei
- for sending a special delivery registered letter: 3.60 lei

## B) POLITICAL INFORMATION

## a) Miscellaneous

Religious freedom

50X1-HUM

The Rumanian orthodox church enjoys considerable freedom of worship,

as does the Catholic church. The latter, however, ~~is~~ <sup>hold</sup> forbidden to

<sup>services</sup> in the evening or at night so as to avoid the possibility of secret meetings of "reactionaries" in the Catholic churches.

<sup>these</sup> Members of both religions attend church without fear of reprisals or inspection by the secret police.

50X1-HUM

The people are in constant fear that the militia or police may unexpectedly ~~come to~~ <sup>come to</sup> their homes.

Such visits almost always mean the arrest of one or more members of the family on very farfetched charges.

- 7 -

U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

~~SECRET~~



SECRET

U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

The continuous state of fear is expressed in the following anecdote which is very popular in Rumania:

A lady was alone in her house one evening when she heard someone knock at the door.

"Who is it?", she called.

"Death" replied the person outside.

The lady breathed a sigh of relief and exclaimed, "Thank God, I thought it was the Militia!"

U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET

-8-